

Editorial Rooms of "The Independent."

No. 3 Park Place,

P. O. Box 2787.

New York, Dec 30, 1870.

My Dear Garrison,

I have been too busy in these last days of my labor in this office to reply to your last welcome letter. At the time of my resignation, it was supposed that Gilbert Haven would take the place of editor-in-chief. I felt sure that my place under him would not be pleasant, and I knew that he would wish me out of the way. I had, moreover, a suspicion that Mr. Bowen, while he would not want to remove me, would like to have an orthodox man in my place. I therefore thought it best to resign, and leave Mr. Bowen free to accept or decline ^{that} ~~my~~ resignation as he might choose. He accepted it, though

Will you mail the enclosed letter to Rosa Brigham?

he has since informed me that he did
so under an impression that I was
engaged to the Tribune. Looking at all
the circumstances now, I think I acted
wisely, as I know I did honorably.
I have been treated by Mr. Bowen and
by all my associates with great kind-
ness, and I think there is sincere regret
on the part of most of them that
I am going away. Certainly, if
the change were to take place at all,
it could not have ^{been brought about} ~~done so~~ under
circumstances more agreeable to
myself than those by which it has
been attended.

My desk has been put in
order for transfer to my successor
(Rev. Mr. H. Ward, author of the sketch
of Dr. Leavitt), and to-morrow, after
mailing the weekly remittances to

Contributors, I shall withdraw. Tuesday morning, after the festivities of the New Year's day are over, I shall go to the Tribune, upon a salary of \$50 per week. My new duties are not as yet very accurately defined, but among them will be the ~~care~~ oversight of the Weekly Tribune. Whether I shall have ^{to do} more or less work than heretofore, and whether it will be more or less agreeable, remains to be seen. But I count myself lucky in having to lose no time in looking for work. My new salary will begin from the moment that the old one ends. To be sure, I could give up my profession and live comfortably for the rest of my days on my little farm in Chester Co.; but, so long as I am able to work at my trade,

it seems to me best not to relinquish
it for a life of greater ease. I am,
I am happy to say, comfortably well
off; and, if my life and health are
spared a few years longer, I shall
have all that I need of earthly property.

My dear friend, how warmly my
heart goes out to you! Tears fill
my eyes when I think how kind and
generous you have been in all your
relations to me for the last forty years,
and how deeply I am indebted to you,
under God, for the ^{best} inspiration of my
life. God bless and keep you to the end.

Mary Anne joins me in
warm love to you and Helen and
Fanny and Frank, and also to William
and his wife.

Yours, devotedly,

River Johnson.

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